



Meeting time and Place: Tuesday, May 25th, 2010, 8:30 a.m. at the Cove Deli.

In Attendance: Heather Knutson of Country Pasta; Theresa Jones of St. Luke Community Healthcare; Paula Weaver of DRS; Shelly Fyant of Kicking Horse Job Corp; Jessie Miller of First Citizens Bank; and Debbie Krantz, Todd Erickson, and Whitney Goss of Lake County Job Service.

Treasurer's Report from Jessie: We currently have \$6946.55 in the JSEC account. The committee was interested in finding out the profit/loss from the recent workshop. Due to the timing of the Innovation in Business Conference, we were unable to get the figures together last week, but plan to have those available at next month's meeting. While we were on the topic, Whitney reviewed the survey results from the workshop. The responses were very favorable, with the only major concern being the temperature of the room. Some of the JSEC committee was able to attend and had positive reviews of the workshop. They felt Wendy had great energy and kept the audience engaged.

Old Business:

Minutes: Last meeting's minutes were reviewed and approved. Motioned by Heather, seconded by Theresa.

Incumbent Worker Training Update: Todd and Debbie provided an update. There are currently 2 or 3 candidates from Lake and Sanders County interested in participating at this time. Debbie and Todd are trying to get the applications processed quickly so that the businesses can take advantage of the funding both fiscal years that it is available. They learned more about this process at the Innovation in Business Conference. Todd reminded committee members to keep possible businesses in mind for this opportunity, reviewed the eligibility requirements, and answered specific questions. Heather was interested to know the timeline for the training, whether it has to all take place within the fiscal year or not. Debbie will look into that and get back to her.

New Business

Effectiveness Shift Recap: Done earlier in the meeting. Very positive experience. Committee would like to see training continue to keep generating interest in JSEC and providing information to local employers.

JSEC Conference Recap: Conference started off with MSEC meeting which Todd and Whitney were able to attend. Concerns were voiced at the MSEC meeting regarding a region rep and travel issues. MSEC will revamp the region rep description to try to work around those issues (teleconferencing, email correspondence, etc.). Richard Pimentel was the keynote speaker. Richard is a renowned advocate for disabled veterans and a movie was shown on the first night documenting his story. Richard has developed training called "Windmills", which might be valuable for our JSEC chapter to

look into. This would be an opportunity to provide sensitivity training to local employers, increase awareness, and educate them about reasonable accommodations. Job Service will research this more to see if this is training we could somehow utilize in Lake County. We also had a keynote speaker the second day, Dan McArthur, who discussed Core Values testing and its use in an office setting, as well as “updraft training”, which discussed the values of teamwork (geese fly in a “V” formation to save 71% energy exertion). Please see Debbie, Todd, or Whitney if you are interested in seeing handouts from the conference. There was discussion at the MSEC meeting at to whether the Innovation in Business Conferences will continue yearly or every other year and we should hear a decision on that within the next couple of months.

MSEC Update: Karen was unable to attend. Will ask her for more information at the next meeting.

Let's Talk About the Future:

Region Rep: We still don't have anyone in this position. Debbie has a regional manager's meeting on Thursday and will follow up with Missoula and Kalispell JSEC's to see if anyone in those chapters would be interested.

Training: Todd suggested utilizing the “Give Em a Pickle” video in both Polson and Ronan. Theresa suggested speaking with Wayne Fuchs about this, as he put together a 2 hour training using this video. Todd and Whitney will give an update on this at the next meeting.

Manager's Report: Debbie. Montana received a new National Emergency Grant yesterday for \$1.8 million to help dislocated workers from major layoffs such as the timber industry. These funds will cover some costs that TAA can't cover, which in turn will help keep general dislocated worker funds available for employees from smaller layoffs as well, since it will free up that funding. Workforce Services Division also applied for and On-the-Job Training grant, which would provide hands-on training to general dislocated workers, which would be a huge boost for employers as well.

Other items: Theresa referenced a new government program offering tax incentives to employers who hire individuals who have been out of work for more than 6 months. If you would like to find out more information, please contact the Polson Chamber of Commerce (chamber@polsonchamber.com). The required tax form (W-11) is located at: <http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/fw11.pdf>, along with an FAQ on the IRS website located: <http://www.irs.gov/businesses/small/article/0,,id=220745,00.html>.

Todd also wanted the JSEC committee to be aware of the following upcoming training opportunity: “*Passport to Service*” at the Kwa TaqNuk Resort in Polson on Tuesday, June 1 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. This session is free of charge to all participants.

Please pre-register for this session by contacting La Nita Barahona at 406-253-3130 or email barahonafamily@yahoo.com.

Participants in *Passport to Service* will explore ways to connect with customers, learn the characteristics of an effective travel counselor, identify resources available in their community and region, build skills for tactful and effective communication with

challenging customers and co-workers, understand the economic impact of tourism in Montana, and commit to personal steps to make a difference. This interactive training will involve exercises with direct application to tourism based businesses, a state highway map scavenger hunt, real-life service examples to examine, and scenario discussions to resolve service challenges. Glacier National Park gateway community participants will also learn about this year's centennial celebration and options to enjoy the park before and after the Going-to-the-Sun Road is open. All participants are encouraged to bring brochures and information to share about their or others' businesses and organizations and will receive a certificate of completion.

Next Meeting: (Please note, as it is different than our usual schedule!) Tuesday, June 29th, 2010, 8:30 a.m. at the Cove Deli in Polson. This will be the final meeting until the fall.